

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 through 8 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

1 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A display control device for controlling a display to display, on a single screen, a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows on the screen, said display control device comprising:

an obtaining unit, which obtains identification signals relating to the plurality of pictures from the plurality of signal sources;

a display selection information creating unit, which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection unit, which appropriates each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows on the single screen according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit which, for each of the plurality of signal sources, notifies that signal source of (i) the created display selection information and (ii) information identifying the signal source,

wherein the plurality of signal sources are separate apparatuses.

10. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, further comprising:

an image memory, which stores a plurality of pictures inputted from the plurality of signal sources connected to the signal lines; and

an area securing unit, which secures a storage area for storing each of the plurality of pictures in said image memory, according to the created display selection information.

11. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the display selection information is created or changed according to a setting of a display window.

12. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 11, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in the display selection information.

13. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in inputted pictures.

14. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a number of inputted pictures.

15. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with at least one of:
a change in a number of signals on a network comprising the signal lines; and
a change in an attribute of a signal.

16. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display window of an inputted picture on the screen.

17. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in size or position of a display window on the screen.

18. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in usage of a display window.

19. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in content of an inputted picture.

20. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein a notification by said notification unit is performed synchronously with a change in a positional relation of a plurality of picture-in-picture windows on the screen.

21. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers provided to the plurality of signal sources.

22. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are communication addresses provided to the plurality of signal sources.

23. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for an output mode of the plurality of signal sources.

24. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for an output channel of the plurality of signal sources.

25. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided for the pictures.

26. (Previously Presented) A display control device according to Claim 9, wherein the identification signals obtained by said obtaining unit are identification numbers or communication addresses provided to users of the plurality of signal sources for the pictures.

27. (Previously Presented) A display control system for controlling a display to display, on a single screen, a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows on the screen, said system comprising a display control device that includes:

an attributes information memory, which stores display attributes information for each of the plurality of display windows;

an obtaining unit, which obtains identification signals relating to the plurality of pictures from the plurality of signal sources;

a display selection information creating unit, which creates display selection information based on the obtained identification signals;

a display selection unit, which appropriates each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows according to the created display selection information; and

a notification unit which, for each of the plurality of signal sources, notifies that signal source of (i) the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information and (ii) information identifying the signal source,

wherein each of the plurality of signal sources comprises a transmitting unit, which transmits a signal corresponding to a display window, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by said notification unit, and wherein the plurality of signal sources are separate apparatuses.

28. (Previously Presented) A display control system according to Claim 27, wherein the transmitting unit suppresses an amount of information of the picture signals, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified by said notification unit, and transmits the signal, whose amount of information has been suppressed.

29. (Previously Presented) A display control method of a display control device, for controlling a display to display, on a single screen, a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows on the screen, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) at the display control device:

(1) storing display attributes information for each of the plurality of display windows;

(2) obtaining identification signals relating to the plurality of pictures from the plurality of signals sources;

(3) creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

(4) appropriating each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows according to the created display selection information; and

(5) for each of the plurality of signal sources, notifying that signal source of (i) the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information and (ii) information identifying the signal source, and

(b) at each of the plurality of signal sources:

transmitting a signal corresponding to a display window, based on the display attributes information and the display selection information notified in said notifying step, wherein the plurality of signal sources are separate apparatuses.

30. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for implementing a method of a display control device, for controlling to display, on a single screen, a plurality of pictures, which are from a respective plurality of signal sources connected to signal lines, wherein the plurality of pictures are displayed in a respective plurality of display windows on the screen, the program comprising:

code for a storage step of storing display attributes information for each of the plurality of display windows;

code for an obtaining step of obtaining identification signals relating to the plurality of picture signals from the plurality of signal sources;

code for a creating step of creating display selection information based on the obtained identification information;

code for an appropriating step of appropriating each of the plurality of pictures to a respectively corresponding one of the plurality of display windows according to the created display selection information; and

code for a step of, for each of the plurality of signal sources, notifying that signal source of (i) the stored display attributes information and the created display selection information and (ii) information identifying the signal source,

wherein the plurality of signal sources are separate apparatuses.

31. (Cancelled)